

**Reports to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting of
St Mary's, Leake, 18th March 2018 to be held in
St Mary's, Leake following the 9am service of
Holy Communion**

A. Vicar's Report 2018

B. Electoral Roll Officers Report

REVISED ELECTORAL ROLL:

Leake:

Resident: 76 (81)

Non-Resident: 16 (16)

Over Silton:

Resident: 8 (8)

Non-Resident: 5 (5)

Nether Silton:

Resident: 7 (8)

Non-Resident: 1 (1)

(In brackets Electoral Roll numbers as at A.P.C.M. 2017)

**C. Trustees Report and Accounts; the Parochial Church
Council of the St. Mary's, Leake, 2017**

Aim and purposes:

Leake Parochial Church Council (PCC) has the responsibility of cooperating with the incumbent, the Reverend Ian Houghton, in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Objectives and Activities:

The PCC seeks to encourage membership and worship at St. Mary's, Leake. The PCC maintains an overview of worship throughout the parish and makes suggestions on how services can involve as many as

possible of those that live within our parish. Our services and worship put faith into practice through prayer and scripture, music and sacrament. In particular, we try to enable people to live out their faith as part of our parish community through:-

- Worship and prayer
- Provision of pastoral care for people living in the parish
- Missionary and outreach work

To facilitate this work it is important that we maintain the fabric of the Church of St. Mary.

Achievements and Performance:

In addition to maintaining a regular pattern of services throughout 2017 at St. Mary's, Leake, the PCC has been involved in and organised the following:-

- Special celebration services at major festivals eg. Easter, Harvest and Christmas.
- Parish Lunch in Knayton Village Hall.
- Manned a stall at the annual Borrowby Show to show the work and life of the church in the community.
- Harvest Supper in Knayton village hall.
- Paid for a bus to transport the pupils of Knayton C.of E. Primary school to the church for their carol service and hosted parents and children. We welcomed the school for their Easter Service on April 7th.
- Developed the Church website & Friends of Leake Church.
- Overseen the maintenance of the churchyard.
- Paid for, and the Foundation Governor has presented, bibles to the leavers at Knayton C. of E. Primary school.
- Run a church lottery monthly throughout the year, adding considerable financial help to our funds.
- Joined with Kirby Knowle for Lent study.
- Reordered the pews at the front of the nave as per our Faculty application.
- Started Cafe Church in the Village Halls instead of Morning Worship in church, this has proved popular in the parish.
- Evensong in July with the Rectory Chorale choir from Ripon.
- Northern Synfonia Male Voice Choir performed at Leake in October.

- Sadly our organist Warwick Wainwright retired, in the absence of an organist the church is now using an electronic system to provide music at regular worship.
- Sold 415 History books since summer 2015, we will need to do a reprint soon.
- Sold 100 calendars.

Worship and Prayer:

The PCC is keen to offer a range of services over the course of the year that our community find both beneficial and spiritually fulfilling.

All are welcome to attend our regular services. At present there are 92 parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll, 16 of whom are not resident within the parish. The average weekly attendance on normal Sundays during the year was 20, but this number increased considerably at festivals such as Easter and Christmas. We have celebrated 1 baptism, 1 wedding and held 3 funerals/memorial services in our church this year.

Website, Social Media and Friends' Group:

The Leake website (leakechurch.org.uk) is now well established. It was expanded in the last year to include pages to allow donations, support those researching their family history and with information for visitors with disabilities. Our Facebook page is followed by 67 people. It is regularly used by visitors to share photographs of the church and to discuss their visit. The church has now joined Trip Advisor, where we have received several excellent reviews from our visitors. We hope that this will make us better known by tourists in the area. We have also continued to develop our "Friends of Leake" email newsletter, which now reaches 82 people

Deanery Synod:

One member of the PCC sits on the Deanery Synod. This provides the PCC with an important link between the parish and the wider structures of the church.

One member represents us at Churches Together, Thirsk District; an ecumenical group covering all the churches in Thirsk and the area. The group is part of North Yorkshire Moors Churches Together. (Please see report below at section F).

The Church building of St. Mary's Leake:

We continue to keep the church open to all for private prayer. The church is generally in a fair state of repair; work is in hand to address rain water ingress under the south and north aisle roofs together with defects identified in associated flashings and pointing. A faculty was applied for and permission granted for the re-ordering of the interior of the church to make it a safer and more user-friendly environment for worship in the 21st century in January 2017. The necessary work was carried out during the the year.

Pastoral Care:

There is no formalised system of pastoral care but many church members are actively involved in caring for neighbours. Pastoral visiting falls mainly on the shoulders of the incumbent. We have the facility for some members to take Communion to the housebound. Contact the Vicar or the Churchwardens if you would like this service.

Mission and Evangelism:

Our parish magazine continues to be distributed monthly to a wide circulation of parishioners both on and beyond the Church Electoral Roll.

Ecumenical Relationships:

We have engaged in discussion with our colleagues from the Borrowby Methodist Chapel in respect of shared activities and continue to seek opportunities for shared worship.

Financial Review 2017:

During the year, we made a deficit of Income over Expenditure of £704.

Total receipts on unrestricted funds were £32,552 (£31,415) of which £16,291 (£13,463) was unrestricted voluntary donations, and a further

£3,208 (£2,922) was refunded by HMR&C as Gift Aid. No restricted donations were received.

£29,778 (£29,577) was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from St. Mary's Church, Leake, including Freewill Giving to the Diocese of £17,235 which largely provides the stipends and housing for the clergy. £3,478 (£nil) was spent from Designated funds on re-ordering - moving of organ etc.

The net result for the year was a surplus of receipts over payments of £7,775 (£1,838) on unrestricted funds. Adding bank and deposit balances brought forward at the beginning of the year, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totalled £35,315 and on restricted funds £1,809. The unrestricted funds include substantial gifts received in previous years of £21,039, which sum is being carried forward as a designated fund.

Reserves policy

It is PCC policy to try to maintain a balance on unrestricted funds which equates to at least three months unrestricted payments. This is equivalent to £8,000 and at the year-end a sufficient balance is to hand. It is held to smooth out fluctuations in cash flow and to meet emergencies.

It is our policy to place fund balances with the CCLA Church of England Deposit Fund, and as National Savings and Investments deposits; at the 31st December £1,115 was with the former and £29,500 with NS & I.

Stewardship:

In previous years St Mary's PCC has been under increasing financial pressure due to increased costs and a reduction in giving. A stewardship campaign was held in the autumn of 2016 to coincide with our Harvest Festival. We attempted to write to every household in the parish and to anyone from further afield who may have a link with the church. The PCC was grateful for a very positive and generous response from many people. 25 households responded, either by committing to their existing planned giving or by increasing their gift. We also received eleven individual donations totalling £2024. The impact of this on our income will not be fully known until the next

financial year, but it is clear that we are in a significantly stronger position than before this campaign. Thank you to everyone who responded.

Optional Information

Volunteers:

We would like to thank all the volunteers who work so hard throughout the year to keep our church so well cared for and churchyard so well tended. We would also like to thank our organist for his commitment and to all others who contribute willingly to the life of the church in whatever way and so contribute to the efficient running of the church community.

Health and Safety:

The PCC is aware of its obligations to try and maintain a healthy and safe environment for the worshippers and visitors to St. Mary's and it has appointed a Child Protection Officer to keep us informed of our obligations to keep children as safe as possible. The PCC of St Mary's Leake has complied with the duty under section 5 of the Safeguarding and Clergy Discipline Measure 2016 (duty to have regard to House of Bishop's guidance on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults).

Structure, governance and management:

The method of appointment of PCC members is carried out in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

At St. Mary's, Leake, the membership of the PCC consists of the incumbent (our vicar), churchwardens, and members elected by those members of the congregation who are on the electoral roll of the church. All those who attend our services as members of the congregation are encouraged to register on the Electoral Roll and stand for election to the PCC.

The PCC members are responsible for making decisions on all matters of general concern and importance to the parish including deciding on how the funds of the PCC are to be spent. The full PCC meet at least six times during the year with an average level of attendance of 8.

Administrative information:

The Church of St. Mary, Leake, is situated by the A19 a mile or so north of the villages of Borrowby and Knayton, YO7 4BN. It is part of the Diocese of York within the Church of England. The correspondence address is The Vicarage, Knayton, Thirsk, YO7 4AZ. The PCC is a body corporate (PCC Powers Measure 1956, Church Representation Rules 2006) and a charity currently exempted from registration with the Charity Commission. PCC members who have served from March 2016 until the date this report was approved are:-

Ex Officio members:

Incumbent: The Reverend Ian Houghton (Chairman)
Wardens: Mrs Penny Bell
Mrs Caroline Osgood

Elected members:

Mrs Irene Dugdale
Mr David Dugdale – Electoral Roll Officer
Mrs Linda Gibbon - Child Protection Officer and representative/Lay Chair on Deanery Synod & representative to Churches Together Thirsk District.
Dr T Selmes
Mr Warwick Wainwright
Mrs Joanne Jones
Mrs Sheila Wainwright (Secretary)
Mr David Smethurst (co-opted Sept 2017)
Mrs Jean Smethurst (co-opted Sept 2017)

D. The Financial Statements of the Council for the year ending on the 31st December immediately preceding the meeting audited or independently examined are available from the Secretary on request.

E. Report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the Church of St Mary, Leake. March, 2017

The fabric of the church is generally in fair order; work is in hand in carrying out the work approved in the faculty.

Our sincere thanks go to Mr Osgood and his team of volunteers for cutting the grass and maintaining the graveyard so well. The goods and ornaments of the Church are all present and correct.

P Bell & C Osgood, Churchwardens.

F. Annual report to the Members of Leake Parish – Mowbray Deanery

There were three meetings of the Deanery in 2017. The first was in March at South Otterington School with the opening worship being led by Rev Robert Williamson, vicar for South Otterington and the Thorntons. The second was held in Knayton and the third at East Harlsey.

During the year the Deanery website progressed and the regular reports from the General and York Synod are now available. This is really helpful to Reps, enabling them to easily send PCCs information and news of events etc.

We have continued to have on the agenda 'Developing our Deanery'. In March, Rev Carnell and Rev Fiona Mayer-Jones gave an interesting aspect on this in the form of a dramatic presentation. We returned to this subject in September after the introduction of the Area Leadership Team.

We continue to endeavour to celebrate our Deanery through sharing stories about our Parishes. It is particularly gratifying to see developments such as messy church and young people travelling abroad to volunteer with third world countries, the Deanery being proactive in offering financial support. This is evident in the regular work carried out by and involving Andy and Jo Bowden who were appointed to the Cleveland Archdeanery to support children and young people alongside our parish helpers and paid staff in a couple of parishes.

The new Leadership team came into operation in September. Rev Ian Houghton was thanked for his work as Rural Dean and the new Area Dean is Rev Fiona Mayer-Jones from Northallerton. There is also a

new Lay Area Dean, Mr Peter Gardner from East Harlsey. The message from the Deanery Leadership team suggests we are trying to link parish activities to Diocesan Strategy and identify what the Deanery can do to help parishes.

There was an Ascension Day service and a Confirmation service in the Deanery as well as many individual events. Two highlights being a service in York Minster in September celebrating our Deaneries with the Archbishop and in October Bishop Paul's Archdeaconery day.

Linda J Gibbon March 2018

G. Foundation Governor's Report for Knayton School

At the end of last year's report I mentioned that Knayton School had undergone a SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) and we were waiting the outcome.

I am very pleased to report that the School was deemed to be 'OUTSTANDING'. It stated that

'Their sincere and effective relationships at all levels help make Knayton a place where personal development and academic achievement can thrive. Leaders are also passionate about ensuring the school's Christian distinctiveness continues to flourish'.

In July Knayton underwent an OFSTED inspection. Again the school was judged to be 'OUTSTANDING' in all areas.

These reports vindicate the hard work done by all the staff and the effectiveness of the leadership team.

There are now 140 pupils in 6 classes. A new classroom came into operation in January 2018.

On the last day of the summer term 2017 Bibles bought by Leake Church were presented to the Year 6 leavers. Many thanks for presenting them. The pupils do appreciate them.

Pupils have been involved in all special services including Easter, Harvest, Nativity, Carol Service and Christingle.

In October the harvest festival collected food for local food banks.

During Advent the school made donations to a school in the North East. The Christmas Carol Service took place at Leake Church.

This year Christingle took place on Friday 2nd February.
Throughout the year 'Open the Book' regularly come into School. Pupils are always delighted to see them
The School is now part of the ELEVATE multi academy trust. The trustees have strong Christian values.
As you can see it has been a very busy year. A Big Thank you for all at Leake Church for all the help you give the School.